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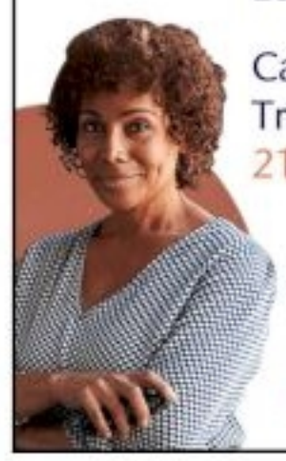

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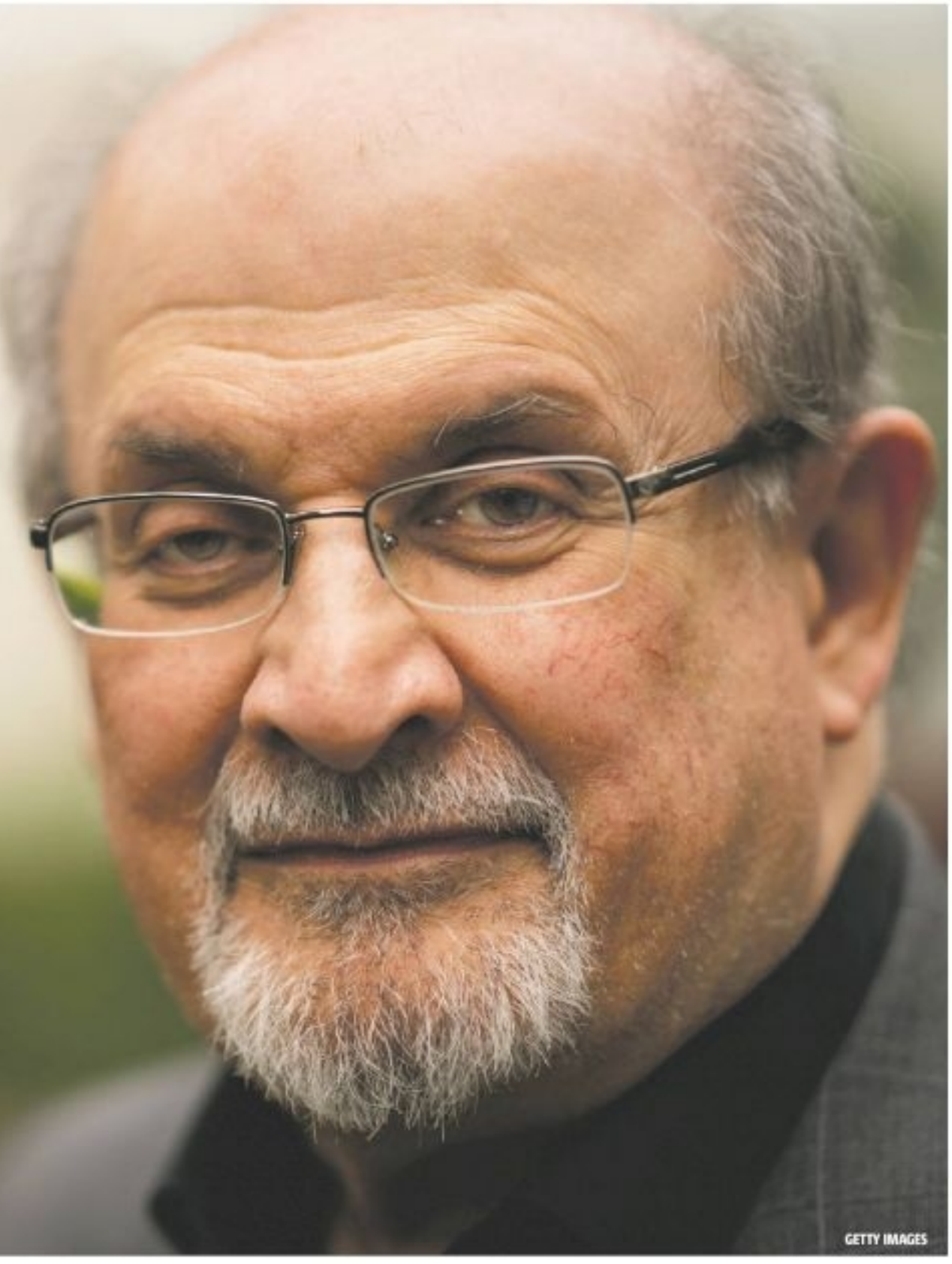
SALMAN RUSHDIE IN PHILLY

Legendary novelist talks to Metro about his 30-year-old fatwa, laughs with Larry David and magical realism revived in his new book 'Quichotte.' 4-5



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8 THINGS TO KNOW

Motive unclear in deadly New Jersey kosher grocery rampage: officials

Mental illness and drugs may have been factors.

Emergency personnel and investigators work at the scene the day after an hours-long gun battle with two men around a kosher market in Jersey City, New Jersey on December 11, 2019. REUTERS

Investigators are not sure why two people launched a deadly attack at a New Jersey kosher grocery store, state officials said on Wednesday, but a federal law enforcement source said the incident did not appear to be an act of organized terrorism.

Six people, including the two shooters, three civilians and a police officer, died in a series of events that ended in a police shootout on Tuesday in Jersey City, New Jersey, across the Hudson River from New York City.

The four-hour gun battle at the Jewish JC Kosher Supermarket erupted after the pair shot the police officer at a nearby cemetery and then fled in a white van. It ended after police crashed an armored vehicle through the wall of the market.

"We are not in the position at this time to say definitively why the suspects stopped in front of the supermarket and began firing," New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir Grewal told a news conference.

Jersey City Mayor Steven Fulop ordered police to be on high alert to protect Jewish neighborhoods following the attack.

The federal law enforcement source said investigators believe mental illness and drug use may have been the primary factors in the attack. He said investigators now view an anti-Semitic message posted online by one of the shooters as a secondary factor.

Officials identified the shooters as David Anderson, 47, and Francine Graham, 50. The three civilian victims inside the market were Mindy Ferenz, 32, Miguel Douglas, 49, and Moshe Deutsch, 24, they said.

> **"We are not in the position at this time to say definitively why the suspects stopped in front of the supermarket and began firing."**
>
> New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir Grewal

A fourth person who was in the market when the shooters entered escaped. Officials declined to identify that person.

Police found a homemade pipe bomb in the rented van that the shooters drove to the market.

Some local media reported the initial confrontation between the suspects and police near the Jersey City cemetery, about a mile from the supermarket, was linked to a previous homicide investigation. The two shooters also are suspects in that earlier murder, officials said.

The dead police officer, identified as Joseph Seals, a 15-year veteran of the force and father of five, was shot at the cemetery shortly before the shootout around the grocery began.

"We are deeply shocked and saddened by the antisemitic attack in #JerseyCity yesterday," the Israeli embassy in Washington said on Twitter.

"This remains a very fluid and fast-moving investigation," said New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy. "Based on everything we know, there is no ongoing security concern related to the events of yesterday." REUTERS

Chilean Air Force finds debris from missing plane

2 The Chilean Air Force said on Wednesday it had located debris believed to be from a cargo plane that crashed this week with 38 people aboard over a remote stretch of frigid sea between South America and the Antarctic. The debris was found 30 kilometers south of where the plane last made contact, the Air Force said in a statement. The parts were being recovered for analysis to determine if they belonged to the Hercules C-130 cargo plane. The aircraft disappeared shortly after taking off late on Monday from the southern city of Punta Arenas. The Air Force concluded the aircraft must have crashed early the next morning, given the number of hours it had been missing. "We will continue the search and hope for a better result," said Air Force General Eduardo Mosqueira.

REUTERS

UK Labour cuts Conservative lead ahead of election

3 Britain's governing Conservatives have seen their lead over the opposition Labour Party cut to five percentage points, according to a Savanta ComRes poll for The Telegraph newspaper published on the eve of an election. Prime Minister Boris Johnson's party stands unchanged at 41%, according to the survey, whilst Labour was up 3 percentage points to 36%, the smallest lead recorded by the pollster since mid-October and the best showing for Labour since January. Three other opinion polls published on Wednesday showed larger leads for the Conservatives. REUTERS

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Novelist Salman Rushdie speaks on stage during a discussion of the book "Quichotte" at Free Library of Philadelphia on December 10, 2019 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Salman Rushdie's new normal

The author of "Quichotte" and "The Satanic Verses" returns to Philadelphia's Free Library to discuss his take on "Don Quixote," reality television and how Larry David got him to laugh at his legendary fatwa.

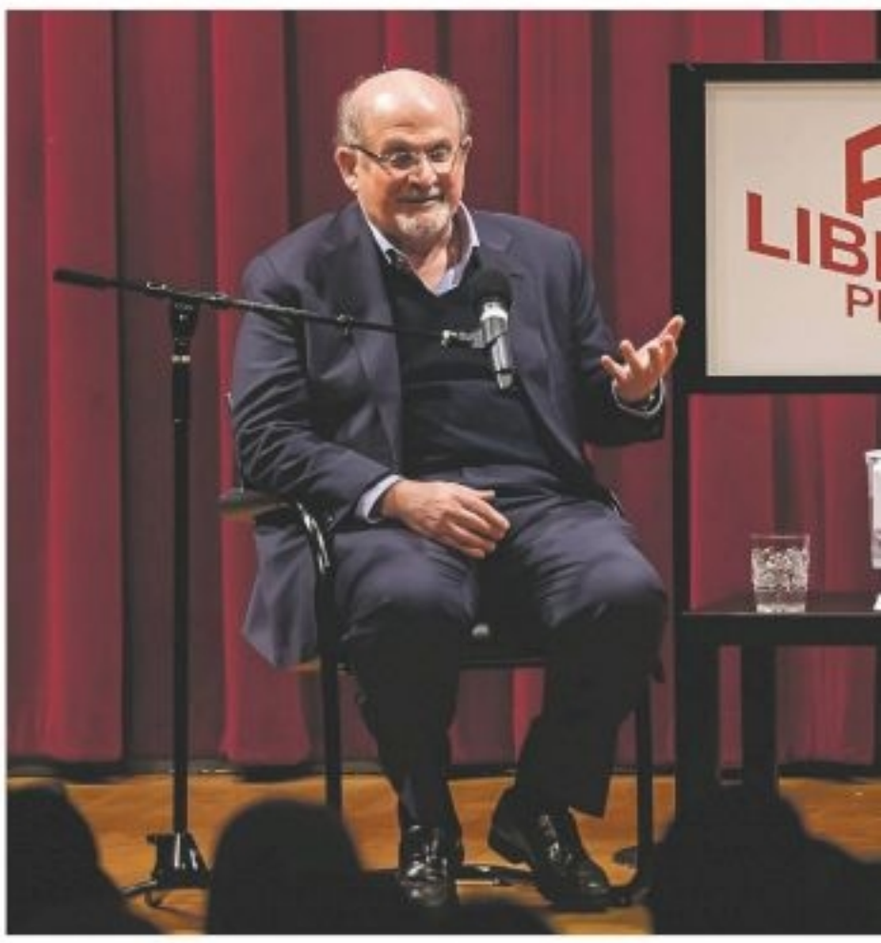
A.D. AMOROSI
letters@metro.us

Currently on his fourteenth novel, "Quichotte," and its contemporary take on Don Quixote's eternal search for truth, author Salman Rushdie is, like his new book's principle character, looking for a hopeful, new magical realism – only this time, courtesy of pop culture references that include everything from the "Real Housewives" TV series ("only the New Jersey housewives were truly entertaining," he said) to "The Bachelorette."

Rushdie discussed all this, and more, during Tuesday night's visit to the stage of the Free Library of Philadelphia's main branch – his eighth visit in 20 years – with host, fellow author and musician Wesley Stace. When the event was over, Rushdie gave Metro a moment to talk about "The Satanic Verses," his controversial 1988 novel inspired by the life of Muhammad, which, by 1989, had enraged Muslims who accused its author of blasphemy, with the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini of Iran issuing a fatwa, calling for Rushdie's death.

Rushdie discussed the roots of "Quichotte," (French for "Quixote"), as little more than a chance to get out of his comfort zone of writing about where he lives, New York City, and all of its wonders and woes. "I wanted to get out of the 212 area code," he said with a laugh.

Asked to write an essay for "The New Statesman" about the influence of Shakespeare and "Don Quixote" author Cer-



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vantes – 400 years after their deaths – and how they changed the modern-day literary rulebook, Rushdie re-read the 1605-1615 classic, in its more recent, righteous 2005 translation by Edith Grossman, and decided to make that tale his next towering travelogue.

Rushdie talked of going "motel to motel," inspired by Thomas Pynchon ("I actually finished 'Gravity's Rainbow'"), and Vladimir Nabokov (the part in "Lolita," where they drive across America), only to wind up with a a 70-year-old man of "retreating mental powers" as a character for "Quichotte," who would go on to confidently claim as his own and fall in love with – a beautiful television personality.

"It was my fourth book 'Satanic Verses,' you know, and I'm now on my fourteenth."
Salman Rushdie

Though there are characters in "Quichotte" who mirror true life titans such as billionaire Elon Musk, it was this imagined female television personality that made Rushdie go the route of watching an inflated diet of reality TV programming. "Because we have a reality television president," said Rushdie, who refused to call Donald Trump by name on several occasions.

Like Fitzgerald did with "The Great Gatsby" and Wharton with "The Age of Innocence," Rushdie tackled the contemporary present throughout his magnificent new novel, "right up against the present moment"; a tough trick for any author to pull off properly. And by the time you get to the end of "Quichotte," the world winds up an even crazier place than its travelers seeking the truth.

During a brief question and answer session with the audience, Rushdie spoke sadly and passionately of being born into a Kashmiri Muslim family and the troubles that exist currently with his native homeland as India is "weaponizing Hinduism … ceasing to be a democracy. Here, in America, (that problem) is reversible," said Rushdie, warning that Democrats must not shoot themselves in the collective foot in their rush to beat the Republican incumbent.

Oddly and humorously, the subject of Rushdie's now 30-year-old fatwa came up in relation to Larry David's HBO show, "Curb Your Enthusiasm," and its 2017 plotline involving David writing a musical based on the author's life, titled "Fatwa!" When phoned by the comedian to appear as himself in the improvisational comedy, Rushdie's first reaction was, "How funny is this? At one point in my life, it certainly wasn't funny at all." Yet, by having David and 'Curb' revive this terrible tale as something worthy of comedy, the situation could be diffused, and Rushdie somewhat liberated. "To have reached that point where we are now … perhaps it could be seen as funny."

From there, Metro had the opportunity to ask Rushdie – now that the crazy world he inhabits includes a 30-year-old fatwa that has been diffused and made humorous – how he sees "The Satanic Verses," the work that caused him so many problems. Is it a friend or a foe?

"It was my fourth book 'Satanic Verses,' you know, and I'm now on my fourteenth," said Rushdie with a smile. "There was so much controversy around it to be truly appreciated for what it was. I think now with time and consideration, it is wonderful that people can read it fresh, without the sole idea of scandal around it."

Copies of the book are seen at Salman Rushdie's book signing of his novel "Quichotte" at Free Library of Philadelphia.

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Greta Thunberg. REUTERS

Teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg is Time's Person of the Year

Remarkably, Thunberg has only been a public figure for 16 months.

Greta Thunberg, the 16-year-old Swede who inspired millions of young people to take action against climate change, has been named Time Magazine's Person of the Year for 2019.

Thunberg launched a grassroots campaign at age 15 by skipping school every Friday to demonstrate outside Swedish parliament, pushing for her government to meet its ambitious goals to curb carbon emissions.

Her actions quickly captured people's imagination, and in September this year millions of people took to the streets in cities across the world to support her cause.

"In the 16 months since (her protests began), she has addressed heads of state at the U.N., met with the Pope, sparred with the President of the United States and inspired 4 million people to join the global climate strike," the magazine said.

She is the youngest individual to have won the accolade.

"Margaret Atwood compared her to Joan of Arc. After noticing a hundredfold increase in its usage, lexicographers at Collins Dictionary named Thunberg's pioneering idea, climate strike, the word of the year," Time added.

Thunberg, who turns 17 in January, is currently in Madrid at a United Nations climate summit where world leaders are wrangling over how to implement a 2015 Paris agreement designed to avert potentially catastrophic global warming.

She was typically blunt in her assessment of politicians' efforts.

> **"I'm sure that if people heard what was going on and what was said ... during these meetings, they would be outraged."**
>
> Greta Thunberg

"It seems to have turned into some kind of opportunity for countries to negotiate loopholes and to avoid raising their ambition," she said on stage, drawing applause from an audience that included dozens of her supporters.

"I'm sure that if people heard what was going on and what was said ... during these meetings, they would be outraged."

Former U.S. Vice President Al Gore, a longtime environmentalist, said the magazine made a "brilliant choice" in choosing the reluctant celebrity.

"Greta embodies the moral authority of the youth activist movement demanding that we act immediately to solve the climate crisis. She is an inspiration to me and to people across the world," Gore said.

Thunberg, who said her Asperger's syndrome can be an advantage in her campaigning, sailed across the Atlantic Ocean for 20 days to get to the Madrid event in order to avoid traveling by air.

"Flight-shaming" has gained momentum, especially in Europe, leading some concerned travelers to seek alternative forms of transport.

Thunberg's uncompromising stance has brought her into confrontation with some of the world's most powerful people.

A video of her giving U.S. President Donald Trump what media described as a "death stare" at a U.N. climate summit in September went viral on social media. REUTERS

Harvey Weinstein posts new bond as pledge he won't flee sexual assault trial

Film producer Harvey Weinstein exits the the New York Supreme Court in New York, U.S. on December 11, 2019. REUTERS

Harvey Weinstein posted additional security on Wednesday as a pledge that he will not flee a criminal sexual assault case brought by New York prosecutors, who had sought to increase his bail after he allegedly failed to wear his electronic ankle monitor.

Prosecutors had sought $5 million bail for the former Hollywood producer rather than the original $1 million, but Justice James Burke of the State Supreme Court in Manhattan agreed to let Weinstein post a $2 million insurance bond.

$5M

Prosecutors had sought $5 million bail for the former Hollywood producer rather than the original $1 million, but Justice James Burke of the State Supreme Court in Manhattan agreed to let Weinstein post a $2 million insurance bond.

The insurance bond will be secured by Weinstein's original bail and some other assets, Weinstein's lawyer, Donna Rotunno, said outside the courthouse after the hearing.

Weinstein, 67, used a walker to enter the courthouse. Rotunno said he is expected to have back surgery on Thursday to alleviate pain caused by a car accident in August.

Weinstein has pleaded not guilty to criminal charges that he sexually assaulted two women, one in 2006 and another in 2013. A trial is scheduled for Jan. 6, 2020, and Weinstein could face life in prison if convicted on the top counts.

Prosecutors last week said Weinstein's bail should be increased because he had failed to wear an electronic transmitter that works in tandem with his ankle bracelet on "numerous" occasions, violating his bail. Rotunno had said those apparent violations were caused by technical problems.

Weinstein has been accused of sexual misconduct dating back decades by more than 70 women. He has denied the allegations, saying any sexual encounters were consensual.

The accusations against Weinstein helped spark the #MeToo movement in late 2017, in which hundreds of women have claimed sexual misconduct by powerful men in entertainment, business, media, politics and other fields.

In addition to the two main accusers in the case, prosecutors have said they intend to call other women to testify at trial in order to establish a pattern of behavior. REUTERS

ISTOCK

Best Rides: A top companion app for ride-share and walker safety

Protect yourself with this free app in a dangerous ride-sharing world.

HAZEL SHAHGHOLI
Hazel.Shahgholi@metro.us

The headlines have been rife of late with horror stories of passenger abuse involving popular ride-share services such as Uber and Lyft. According to statistics released by Uber on Thursday, which became the launching pad for a New York Times editorial, 3,045 sexual assaults, nine murders and 58 car crash fatalities occurred through their app in the U.S. in 2018 alone. All this in addition to the fact that Uber's license to operate is currently suspended across the entire city of London, after authorities discovered a "pattern of failures" regarding passenger safety.

In early December, 19 women and one man, who said they were either raped or sexually assaulted, filed lawsuits against Lyft. The victims highlighted company-wide negligence, with one stating, "It's becoming more and more apparent that Lyft can't be trusted to police themselves," reported CBS.

Best Rides' Head of Development, Marc Fantasia, sees these widespread ride-share service failures as an indication that it's time to take your safety into your own hands, and those of your trusted friends and family; a process neatly facilitated by the Best Rides app.

So how exactly does Best Rides work?

Preparation and sharing

Before you book any trips, it's time to set up your emergency contacts. Best Rides allows you to save one emergency contact and five additional contacts as well as groups of contacts — for example, your Thursday night pub quiz buddies. The contacts will be on the receiving end of warning texts sent by Best Rides if anything errant should occur during your trip.

If your most trusted person is living overseas or on vacation, no worries. Best Rides sends emergency alerts to anyone in your contacts, and is compatible with any smartphone.

Before riding, Best Rides prompts you to take two crucial safety measures: upload a screen shot of the Uber/Lyft driver information and a photo of the license plate. If unusual activity should

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Once you have the app downloaded, you simply enter your trip information, and a route and time estimate will be automatically generated. You will then be presented with different rates for the outlined trip as offered by different companies, allowing for a nifty price comparison opportunity. Once you decide which service you would like to use, select it and the app will redirect you to the chosen ride-share app, where you can book your ride.

When your ride begins, you start a timer within the app, and since your location is being continually tracked by GPS linked to Best Rides' server, any deviations from the planned route will be instantly flagged.

In the event of unusual and unplanned activity, such as a route diversion or a trip running longer than it should, you can either immediately hit the panic button and be routed to 911 or send an alert to your emergency contact or group that you are potentially in danger. Should you hit traffic, the app allows you to add time to the timer so as not to cause unnecessary panic.

Automatic protections are also in place for the same deviation situations, when you will be sent a series of push notifications by Best Rides to confirm your safety. If you fail to respond to these prompts five times, a panic alert will be sent out to your emergency contact, letting them know that you might be in danger, and giving them your precise current location and the driver information that you already uploaded. Your emergency contact will be encouraged to call you and, if you don't pick up, to consider alerting the police. Should everything run smoothly, simply confirm your safe arrival within the app.

On foot? You're covered!

Another great thing about Best Rides is its versatility. It works for tracking walks and runs entered into the app in exactly the same fashion as ride-shares, and can even be paired with your Apple Watch.

Fantasia has described the app as a "protection tool," especially useful for when riders are at their most vulnerable, such as after a night of social merriment.

Best Rides is available for free download for iPhone and Android. Go to www.best-rides.com for more information on the app's features.

> **"It's becoming more and more apparent that Lyft can't be trusted to police themselves."**
>
> CBS report

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Death toll from New Zealand volcano eruption rises to 8 as island remains inaccessible

There were 47 people on the island at the time.

New Zealand officials lifted the death toll from this week's volcano eruption to eight on Thursday after two victims died in hospital, as ongoing seismic activity prevented teams from accessing the island to recover bodies.

Authorities said eight bodies remained on the island and would only be retrieved when it is safe to do so. More than two dozen more are in hospital.

The volcano on White Island, a popular tourist day-tripper destination, erupted on Monday, spewing ash and steam over the island.

There were 47 people on White Island at the time of the eruption. Twenty-four of those were from Australia, nine from the United States, five from New Zealand, four from Germany, two each from China and Britain and one from Malaysia.

New Zealand police have issued a list of nine people officially classified as missing, although some families have said independently that relatives on that list have died.

Royal Caribbean cruise lines has said that passengers from its ship Ovation of the Seas were on the island at the time, but it did not respond to a request from Reuters for more detail. The Ovation of the Seas docked in Wellington on Thursday morning.

People leave after a ceremony called "Karakia", attended by Ngati Awa representatives and relatives of the volcano eruption victims at Mataatua Marae house in Whakatane, New Zealand on December 12, 2019. REUTERS

Many of the injured are being treated for severe burns and medical officials are importing some 1.2 million square cm of skin. The amount of skin needed equates to about 60 donors. In New Zealand, only five to 10 people donate skin each year, the New Zealand Herald reported.

Surgeons in several burns units were working around the clock.

"It's one of the most challenging things to look at because you know the patients are in so much pain and will be fighting for their life for the next two or three weeks and even then they could die," John Bonning, president of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine, told the newspaper.

REUTERS

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1				9	7	8		
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MEDIUM

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HARD

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			9	8	7	4		
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READER WRITE-INS:

CONCERT TICKET FEES

I was coordinating with a friend to buy tickets to a concert coming up and we decided that one person should buy both of the tickets a.) so we can sit together and b.) so we would avoid more added fees. When I went to go add a second ticket, lo and behold, they added even more fees. Why do they have to be so cruel? Isn't it enough that I'm spending $35 on a single ticket?

Ben, *Metro New York reader*

ISTOCK

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries A festive event will allow you to mix business with pleasure and make some new connections with colleagues you would like to collaborate with. Share your thoughts.

Taurus Consider what you have, what you want and how to go about achieving your goals. The new year is approaching, and you'll want to be ready to execute your plans.

Gemini Emotional issues will surface when dealing with a loved one. It's time to eliminate the stress you've been feeling by addressing your concerns. Honesty will lead to a better future.

Cancer Clear up paperwork that has been piling up. Getting things in order before the year comes to a close will allow you more time to prepare for future prospects.

Leo A bazaar or flea market will lead to last-minute purchases for special people in your life. A youngster will reveal some interesting information.

Virgo When in doubt, ask questions. Be prepared to compromise, but don't agree to something that you won't be able to honor. It may be time to make a move.

Libra If you listen, valuable information will come your way. Chatting with someone who thinks in a unique way will spark ideas. Personal improvements will motivate you to try something new.

Scorpio Evaluate what you have to do to be your very best. Implementing a routine that will lead to a healthier attitude and physical appearance will pay off. Romance is encouraged.

Sagittarius Put yourself out there. Opportunities come to those who get out and participate, not to those who wait for something to happen. Volunteer work will lead to an exciting encounter.

Capricorn If you offer solutions, you will attract attention. Don't lose sight of what you want to gain for your time, effort and input. Take care of your health and update your appearance.

Aquarius Use your hands, intelligence and talents to come up with an idea and bring it to fruition. An offer will turn out to be better than anticipated.

Pisces Too much idle time will lead to trouble. Avoid getting involved in indulgent behavior with someone who entices you to do things you shouldn't. Self-improvement should be your focus.

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GIFT GUIDE

Rachel Bilson gives us some shopping tips for the holiday season

The actress and style icon has teamed up with Marshalls to find us the perfect gifts.

PAT KING

Have you had that moment of panic this year realizing that you needed to get all of your holiday shopping done ... a week ago? Well, there is a real and absolutely unfair reason for that feeling of dread. This year's shopping season is six days shorter than it was last year, leading to a cramped countdown to stuff all of your stockings before the holiday hourglass drains its last grain of sand. Luckily, Marshalls is teaming up with an amazing group of celebrities and influencers to help you shop in a stress-free way this holiday season. One of these good-hearted shopping experts is actress and fashion icon Rachel Bilson, who has her own curated selection of gifts that you can peruse on the Marshalls website.

"It kind of snuck up on you because Thanksgiving was so late," said Bilson when we discussed the shortened holiday season in the middle of a crowded Marshalls in Tribeca. "That's why I was so excited to partner with Marshalls because you can literally get everything done in one place. I got to curate my own picks that people can see online which is kind of a guide if you need any ideas or any inspiration."

"I think it helps because a lot of people can't spend that time or energy or some people don't have that, you know? But if people want my opinion (laughs) to be able to be like 'hey this really cool and an amazing price point,' you can't go wrong," she adds.

So what will you be able to find on her list?

"Well, I have a five-year old so I definitely went straight for the toys," Bilson explains. "I love that they have a lot of creative things ... I liked all of the art things and I really liked all of the fashion things that you can find at an amazing price and the quality is always something that I always look for. Just the fact that there is something for everyone."

And when you head over to her curated list you will find fun toys for kids including a toy grocery store and lemonade stand from Melissa & Doug and a TP Toys Spiro Spin. On the other end of the spectrum, Bilson has hand-selected some high-quality fashionable items that will make you look great for the new year.

With such a short time to shop, I ask Bilson what her strategy was for choosing gifts for those that are difficult to shop for. We all have them and with the clock ticking, she suggested heading to a place like Marshalls that offers gifts for everyone in your life.

"I like giving thoughtful gifts. But that's the thing when you're here. There are surprises in every department. You'll be like 'oh my god this is amazing' or something that you didn't think of and it's just there right in front of you. That's why it's so helpful to come where there are so many unique gifting options," she said, adding, "If someone loves to cook, you'll spend some time in the home section and you'll find things that will be amazing for that person."

For a full list of Rachel Bilson's curated holiday shopping list, head over to https://www.marshalls.com/us/store/shop/marshalls-expert-gift-picks-rachel-bilson/

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SKYNESHER

Metro's top pop culture gifts for the holiday season

The time to shop for the holiday season is rapidly coming to an end. Have you checked everyone off of your list? Here are some gift ideas for those who are looking to get more into seeing movies, concerts and expanding their streaming lives in the new year.

HOMESH NASRE

Live Nation 2020 Lawn Pass

Even though we are in the throes of winter, tickets for some of the biggest concerts of the spring and summer are being announced right now to get people excited. While many of us will be breaking the bank to cross off all of the names on our shopping lists, buying tickets this far in advance will likely be the last thing we are thinking about. Luckily, Live Nation will be selling a Lawn Pass that will give concert goers access to lawn seats for an unlimited amount of shows during the 2020 outdoor concert season. This pass, at a fair price of $199.99 plus fees, will not only give the pass holder free entry to any show they'd like – even sold-out shows – but fast lane entry and general parking at the venue of your choice. This is the perfect gift for that person who lives and breathes by their packed out Google concert calendar.

For more information, head over to www.lawnpass.livenation.com

Regal Unlimited Movie Pass

While the days of MoviePass are sadly behind us, many popular theater groups have taken up the mantle to provide unlimited movie-viewing options. Regal Cinemas is offering a similar program to the once-beloved MP with their Regal Unlimited subscription service. This mobile app costs just $18 per month and allows customers to attend as many movies they would like per month, with no blackout dates. This pass will also give you 10 percent off of all food and non-alcoholic drinks and free popcorn and a soft drink on that person's birthday. While it's pretty unrealistic to pay someone's membership for the full year, offering to pay a couple of months to get them started would be a thoughtful way to get someone into heading to the movies more in the new year.

For more information, head over to www.regmovies.com/static/en/us/unlimited

Amazon Fire TV Stick

Making the commitment to ditch cable for good and go "streaming-only" can be an extremely liberating feeling. That is if you keep your subscriptions to streaming services limited to the bare essentials, i.e.: the streaming services you know you would actually watch. For those who have not made the switch, gifting someone an Amazon Fire Stick is the perfect way to ease them into that transition. It's super simple to set up – just plug it in – and you're pretty much ready to get started. Now fending off requests for your passwords to streaming services, that is another story.... METRO STAFF

Contemporary nostalgia

Rachel Price will be hitting the stage this weekend with contemporary composer Vilray.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

This weekend, Philadelphians will be transported back in time musically when Lake Street Dive frontwoman, and frequent guest of NPR's "Live From Here," Rachel Price and her good friend contemporary composer Vilray hit the stage at the Perelman Theater. Price and Vilray's songwriting style mirrors the nostalgic melodies and elegant essence of the '20s, '30s and '40s era which is demonstrated beautifully in their recent album "Rachel & Vilray." Price sat down with Metro to discuss her musical inspirations, the fun of performing as a duo and dive into more on what audiences can expect from the intimate show this Friday.

How did you and Vilray start collaborating?

Vilray and I met in college, so the friendship goes back a long time, but the musical collaboration started about four years ago. Vilray actually didn't really play music at all except in secret in his room, but after working in an office for ten years he started to busk in the subways – that sort of helped build up his confidence and his voice got stronger. Eventually, he started playing more gigs, and I went and saw him play, and I guess I hadn't really realized the level he was passionate about the same type of music I'm passionate about, which is the songs of the '20s, '30s and '40s. I just haven't heard anyone represent that type of music the same way that Vilray is able to represent it. I don't always get the opportunity to sing that style of music anymore so I asked him if I could do it with him for fun, and it grew from there naturally.

Rachel Price and Vilray. GETTY

"Rachel and Vilray" just came out in October, what went into making that album?

This music style specifically captures a wide variety of human emotions. There is always a lot of humor and heartaches in the songs, but there's a subtilty to them. It's this style of lyrical writing that didn't really exist past the '50s and it's just what I grew up with. So I've always been drawn to it for that reason and I also think naturally my voice works with singing that style of music. What's really cool about the project with Vilray is that he can write in this style, and he had originally written these songs in the hopes that people wouldn't be able to guess that these weren't old songs – he gave up immediately on keeping it a secret and told people he wrote the songs. But it's cool, I get a chance to sing in this style which Vilray just writes perfectly for and at the same time I also get to act as a conduit for people to grow an attachment to these newer songs.

How was working with Vilray compared to other musical experiences that you've had working with a full band like Lake Street Dive?

It's a completely new experience. A lot of it has to do with the fact that it's a duo, there isn't really a precedent for just two voices and a guitar in jazz music. For me, performing with a band and performing as a duo is just wildly different. The intimacy of just a guitar – it's all on him, Vilray is the whole band and it's really intense to have that dynamic. The tempo, the feel – he's setting it all up, that's a lot of responsibility and I feel that same intensity when I'm singing a song on my own as well.

What will the show's catalog this weekend consist of?

We play songs from our album, other covers and we will play a few of Vilray's songs that are not on the record. It's really a nice setlist. I love the intimacy of this show specifically and the directness – I can sing songs at a whisper and they can still be heard. For a singer, that's like a dream it really is just so fun.

Catch Rachel & Vilray at the Perelman Theater on Dec. 13.

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It's a big band Christmas with Martina McBride

The country singer's "Joy of Christmas" show comes to Philly Dec. 13.

MADELINE PRESLAND
letters@metro.us

Country music legend Martina McBride's holiday show sparkles with nostalgia and Christmas classics.

The singer is currently on tour for her ninth annual "Joy of Christmas" show, and she's wrapping up the decade with her biggest holiday spectacular yet. The singer has two Christmas albums that show her love for the most wonderful time of the year in very different styles. Her 2018 holiday record "It's the Holiday Season" is a throwback to the peak of big band and swing, but with her own personal touch. McBride sat down with Metro to chat about making a Christmas album in the musical style she adores, her other plans while she's in Philly and more.

Can you give us a sneak peak of what's in store on Saturday?

It's really joyful and Christmas-y. I really love this show. We have a 16-piece band and six costume changes, so it's a big evening. This is our ninth year doing this show and I think this is the best version so far.

You added the bigger band to change things up for this year. What influenced that decision?

Last year, I released an album called "It's the Holiday Season." It really has that swing or big band feel to it, like a classic Frank Sinatra record. Adding the horns brings tons of energy and allows us to play these songs in a truly classic way. I think people are surprised by how much sound there is. It's also really nostalgic to hear that big band kind of vibe. You forget how it makes you feel until you hear it again.

How do you put your own spin on the classic Christmas songs?

I really love classic Christmas music so I don't veer too far from that sound. I hired the amazing composer and arranger Patrick Williams to work on this album. I worked with him when I did a duet with Dean Martin for "Baby, It's Cold Outside." I love how he arranged music. He worked with

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Grammy-nominated country star Martina McBride brings her ninth annual holiday tour to Philly this year. JOSEPH LLANES

Frank Sinatra and the "The Mary Tyler Moore Show," so his arrangements are very cinematic. It's like you can see everything happening, like those classic scenes of a woman getting out of a cab in New York on a wintry day. He's responsible for how this record sounds and feels. It's big and familiar, yet fresh.

Do you have any other plans during your short stop in Philly?
I'm definitely getting out to do some Christmas shopping. I am also doing something with my charity, Team Music is Love. In Philly, we are cooking at MANNA [Metropolitan Area Neighborhood Nutrition Alliance], a nonprofit organization with a commercial kitchen that cooks meals for people with special diets and health needs. So we are sponsoring that for a day and I'm going to stop by to tour the kitchen and meet everyone who makes these meals every day. Overall, I'm excited to bring the show to Philly and help everyone get in the Christmas spirit.

Other than your tour, what's your favorite part about the holidays?
Just being with my family, and all my girls. My daughters are 25, 21 and 14. We get home from tour on the morning of the 22nd, so I'll be ready for pajamas, cooking, and the fireplace.

See Martina McBride's "Joy of Christmas" show at The Met on Friday, Dec. 13 starting at 8 p.m. Visit themetphilly.com to purchase tickets and find more information.

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PUBLIC STORAGE # 25765, 2345 Castor Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19134, (215) 600-1197
12/17/19 at 10:00 AM

1093 - Spektor, Adam; 1151 - Stevens, Dora; 1288 - Diaz, Rosa; 2155 - CARRASQUILLO, CHRISTINA; 2170 - Martone, John; 2243 - Zul, Anthony; 2300 - Figueroa Jr, Edgar; 2307 - Candelaria, Linda; 2355 - Batten, Francis; 3004 - Farrar, Thomas; 3049 - Lane, Keia; 3060 - Narcisse, Ceshia; 3069 - Jordon, Shannon; 3129 - Almonte, Elin; 3142 - Jones, Rashid; 3147 - MOSLEY, DANIEL; 3179 - Hoffman, Glen; 3195 - Pote, Joseph; 3212 - Teachey, Tawanda; 3267 - Brown, Cinquetta; 3283 - Thomas, Onica; 3418 - Ruiz, Carlos; 4022 - Knox, Maurice; 4080 - Nicholson, Shsakira

PUBLIC STORAGE # 29145, 2190 Wheatsheaf Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19137, (215) 309-8042
12/17/19 at 11:00 AM

A101 - Miller, Edward; A115 - BAYLOCK, EUGENE; A188 - Crews, Vincent; A208 - Hampton, Betty; B012 - Sweet, Jeffrey; B054 - Derkotch, Kristie; B080 - Esquilin, Melanie; B103 - Thompson, Charles; B116 - Underwood, Steven; B130 - Allen, Camilla; B160 - Perry, Lateefah; E066 - Robles, Robert; E074 - Maldonado, Edwin; E077 - Santos, William; E082 - Ferguson, Carlease; E118 - Chambers, Kayasha; F022 - Borrero, Amelia; G018 - Witherspoon, Carl

PUBLIC STORAGE # 24417, 6301 Tacony Street, Philadelphia, PA 19135, (215) 309-8025
12/17/19 at 12:00 PM

A020 - Seals, Brandon; A054 - Robinson, Kelvin; A087 - Chuck, Eileen; B121 - UNDERDUE, Keith; B198 - Sievenski, Michael; B200 - Jones, Naimah; C238 - Zou, Zhi; C244 - Batts, Diamond; C271 - White, Ryan; C277 - Reyes, Brenda; C307 - Jackson, Shaniqua; C309 - Jones, Jessica; C313 - Reyes, Jose; D390 - Berrios, Luz; D445 - Holzshu, Christopher

PUBLIC STORAGE # 21808, 7571 Ridge Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19128, (215) 309-8006
12/18/19 at 10:30 AM

C010 - Green, Carolyn; C057 - Keen, Audrey; C095 - Ahmed, Asif; C096 - Horton, Sioni; D006 - Dolchan, Mike; D014 - Barkley, Kimberly; D051 - Noll, Dave; D089 - Clark, III, Wardell H; D094 - Beatty, Yvonne; D243 - Thomas, Christopher; D282 - Fisher, Melissa; E006 - Leban, Sean; E022 - Gray, Jovan; E032 - Wroten, Jasmine; E107 - Brooks, Horace

PUBLIC STORAGE # 23222, 1431 Ivy Hill Road, Philadelphia, PA 19150, (215) 309-8053
12/18/19 at 11:30 AM

A223 - Eastern Academy Charter School Mitchell, Martina; B417 - Brown, Mark O.; B451 - Lea, Raini; C517 - Craig, William; C542 - Cohen, Susan; C645 - Eastern Academy Charter School Mitchell, Martina; C652 - Eastern Academy Charter School Mitchell, Martina; D704 - Kearns, Katherine; D706 - Powell-Wilerson, Jeannaetta; D820 - Jones, Serilda; E1009 - Eastern Academy Charter School Mitchell, Martina; E904 - Hill, Jim; G1330 - Fortune, April; G1408 - Davis, Leonard; G1421 - Owens, Ann-Marie; H1514 - Eastern Academy Charter School Mitchell, Martina; H1640 - Cook-Lewis, Edna

PUBLIC STORAGE # 23216, 6225 Oxford Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19111, (215) 253-6093
12/18/19 at 12:30 PM

A120 - Decimus, Bithja; A122 - Michelle, Jennifer; A136 - Bundy, Myneshia; A339 - Brown, Deborah; A344 - Wright, Dawn; A450 - Foy, Reginald; A529 - Glenn, Lavell; A534 - Salau, Abdul; A546 - Lemery, Carmela; A551 - Newson, Joneat; A564 - Robinson, Rashidah; A600 - Bryant, Roslyn; A704 - Harmon, Rexford; A800 - Rahman, Rosa; A802 - Glenn, Lavell; A821 - Brownlee, Ronald; A871 - Major, Dana; B1408 - Williams, Eric; B1412 - Crespo, Margarita; B1413 - Young, Alana; B1525 - Hutchinson, Melvin; B1732 - James, Raiquan; C2113 - Walker, Joan; C2423 - Wadi, Mohammad; C2517 - McBride, Johnny

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The Ravens are a massive 14.5-point favorite tonight at home against the Jets.

While New York was embarrassed in its loss to the Bengals on Dec. 1, it should be noted that Gang Green has won four out of its last five games.

Now, no one is expecting them to go into Baltimore and spring the biggest upset of this NFL season, but the Jets should be able to at least beat this enormous spread.

The Jets will get their star bowler - Le'Veon Bell - back for this one, and Bell has historically run roughshod over Baltimore's defense. The last time Bell played in Baltimore (Oct. 1, 2017), he scampered for 144 yards and two touchdowns and also had 42 yards of receiving.

New York has also quietly had a respectable defense this season, highlighted by its run defense which ranks second in the NFL (allowing just 78.8 points per game).

ALL GETTY IMAGES

That stout rush D should definitely help against Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson, who is at his best when he's running around. In Baltimore's two losses so far this season (at Kansas City, home vs. Cleveland), Lamar was "limited" to under 66 yards rushing.

There is also a growing sense around the league that the Ravens have already peaked. Their last two margins of victory were by an average of just 4.5 points, following a stretch in November in which they were winning by three or four touchdowns every game out.

Baltimore also jumped ahead of the Patriots in the win column for the No. 1 seed in the AFC this past Sunday, and the Ravens also own the head-to-head tiebreaker with New England. Guessing that John Harbaugh's crew will exhale a little bit on a short week against a mediocre team.

The play: Jets +14.5

TWEET OF THE DAY

Cousin Sal
@TheCousinSal

What's the appropriate punishment for the slew of sports anchors who are leading with "this Christmas the Yankees got a bunch of Gerrit Cole in their stocking" joke?
I say death at a minimum.

Best bets

NFL betting: Vikings at Chargers

The Vikings (9-4) have played solid football over their last nine games, winning seven times while keeping the margin of defeat to one score in tough losses to the Seahawks and Chiefs. The underachieving Chargers (5-8) should have a hard time staying within the number here.

The Vikings bring the NFL's fourth-rated rushing attack into this one against the Chargers' 17th-rated run stoppers. Dalvin Cook should be able to establish himself on the ground in this one, setting things up for quarterback Kirk Cousins through the air. Minnesota has averaged 28.3 points over their last nine contests, and they're 11-4 against the spread in their last 15 games as the betting favorite.

L.A.'s offense is fourth in yards per play but just 18th in scoring, and that can be attributed to their carelessness with the football. In their last nine games, their turnover differential is minus-9. By contrast, the Vikings' differential in the same span is plus-5. The Chargers usually have a tough time establishing the ground game (22nd) and Minnesota allows the fourth-fewest passing yards to running backs in the league, so Austin Ekeler's effectiveness will likely be limited.

The play: Vikings -3

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What's next for the Phillies after Didi Gregorius signing?

The Phillies reportedly inked the former Yankee to a one-year deal on Tuesday.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

Didi Gregorius is on his way to the Phillies thanks to a one-year deal worth $14 million, per reports. GETTY IMAGES

The Phillies managed to make their second big acquisition of the offseason on Tuesday night when they signed shortstop Didi Gregorius to a one-year, $14 million deal, per multiple reports.

It's a "show-me" deal for the soon-to-be 30-year old, who was limited to just half of a season in 2019 due to injuries.

Still — despite some struggles at the dish — he managed to hit 16 home runs with 61 RBIs in 82 games.

Gregorius and the Phillies had been linked for the past few weeks leading into the Winter Meetings, especially after the team parted ways with longtime infielders Maikel Franco and Cesar Hernandez.

Their departures made the signing of at least one infielder imperative and Gregorius' deal looks like a bargain compared to the five-year, $118 million pact they gave starting pitcher Zack Wheeler last week.

But the Phillies might be done with their big signings for the winter as they attempt to stay at or near the luxury tax threshold, per The Athletic's Meghan Montemurro.

Per Spotrac, Philadelphia is currently $2.8 million above the threshold.

That leads the Phillies to shuffling their infield around or making smaller moves to complete their infield.

The addition of Gregorius will give the Phillies a new starting shortstop while Jean Segura is expected to make a move to second base.

Segura's natural position is shortstop, but he did play 142 games at second with the Arizona Diamondbacks in 2016 — making it the logical choice rather than trying him out at third base.

For the time being, the Phillies could slot Scott Kingery at the hot corner. The utilityman played 41 of his 126 games in 2019 at third base where he held a .962 fielding percentage.

He could be a stopgap if the Phillies believe that top prospect Alec Bohm is ready to make the jump to the majors. However, the consensus, for now, is that he won't be just yet.

As the only third baseman available on the roster, Kingery would be stuck there unless the Phillies decide to scour the trade market or find a cheap option in free agency.

The current class of available third basemen is loaded. Anthony Rendon and Josh Donaldson are leading the way in free agency while the trade market at the hot corner is heating up.

MORE ON P. 20.

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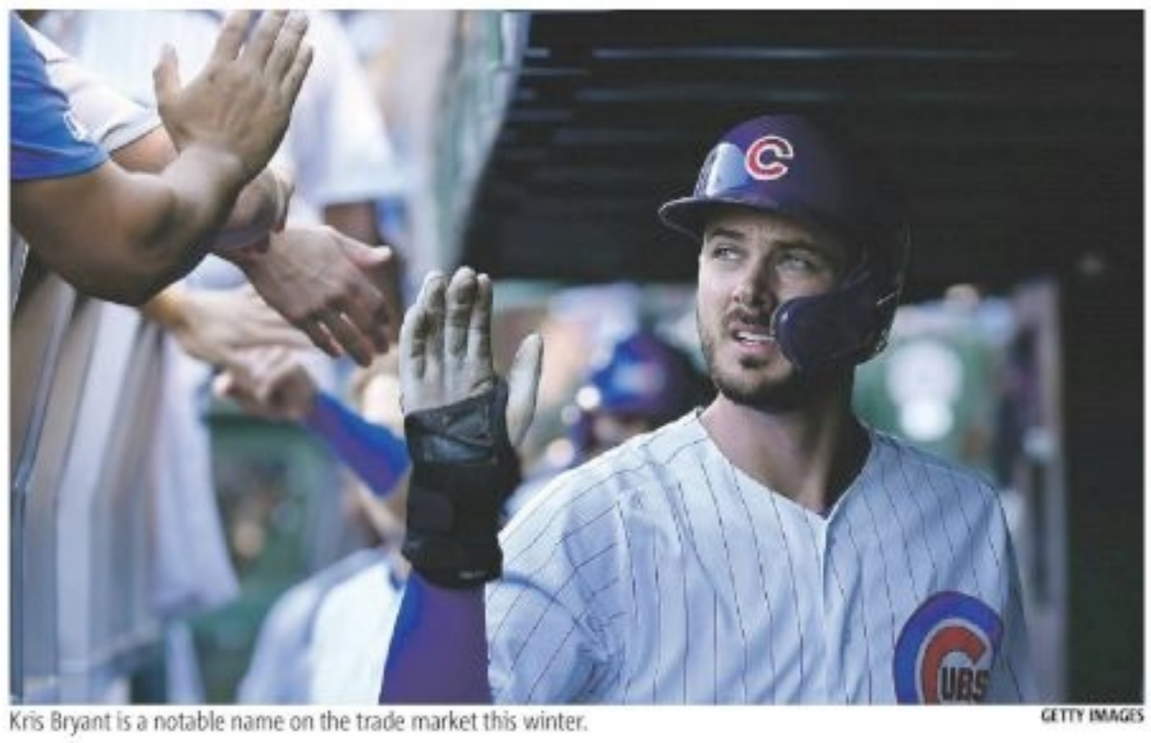
Camp, Robert L. 2276; COOK, DAVID W. 1125; Brown, Amen 167; Walton, Jacqueline 3047; Clark, Tiera 2178; Dixon, Jacquelyn 2121; Duncan, Mark 1055; Johnson, Tawanda E. 1152; Huggins, Martha 2013; Crisden, Terri 1054A; Mapp, Antwyn 1046; Sutton, Shakinah 2120; SOSTRE, ANGEL 153

THIS SALE IS BEING MADE TO SATISFY THE LANDLORDS LIEN. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AT LOCKERFOX.COM, SALE IS SUBJECT TO ADJOURNMENT.

Could Phillies still go for Bryant?

Philly and the Cubs have had talks for the star 3B.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us



Kris Bryant is a notable name on the trade market this winter. GETTY IMAGES

Should the Phillies wish to make one more big splash, however, they could head to the trade market to fashion out a deal that would still leave them in decent financial standing.

While they are close to the luxury tax threshold, they still have some financial flexibility to add a notable third baseman if they're able to shed some money.

The biggest name at the position currently being shopped is Chicago Cubs star Kris Bryant, who is at odds with his team over service time

If Bryant wins his grievance against the Cubs, he becomes a free agent next winter. If he loses, he's under team control until 2021.

The unresolved matter obviously impacts his trade value, but what is known is that he is expected to make around $18.5 million in 2020 through arbitration.

It would be a sizable amount of money for the Phillies to try and fit on the books, but it would be a statement acquisition if they were able to pull it off.

ESPN's Buster Olney has echoed these sentiments for much of the past year and continued to fuel the Bryant-to-Philadelphia fire:

"There may not be a big market of bidders for him," Olney said on ESPN. "The Phillies, boy, would they make a lot of sense."

Bryant would give the Phillies one or two seasons of secure, consistent play at third base. Add that with their success dealing with Scott Boras-represented clients (see Bryce Harper), and the Phillies would know what it would take to keep him in Philadelphia for the long-term.

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IN THE GENERAL
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NO. 17 JT 174

IN RE: Evans, K. D., A MINOR CHILD.

TO: FLORIDA EVANS, RESPONDENT PUTATIVE FATHER, OF THE ABOVE-NAMED MALE CHILD BORN TO KAMISHA LAVENNA ROSEBORO ON OR ABOUT THE 25TH DAY OF JULY, 2004, IN PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

TO: JOHN DOE, RESPONDENT UNKNOWN/UNNAMED FATHER OF THE ABOVE-NAMED MALE CHILD BORN TO KAMISHA LAVENNA ROSEBORO ON OR ABOUT THE 25TH DAY OF JULY, 2004, IN PHILADELPHIA COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

TAKE NOTICE that the Catawba County Department of Social Services has filed a **Petition to Terminate Parental Rights** with respect to the above-described minor child has been filed in the above-entitled proceeding.

You are required and directed to make defense of such pleadings by filing an Answer to the Petition in this proceeding within forty (40) days after the first publication of this notice, exclusive of such date. The Answer must be filed with the Clerk of Superior Court no later than January 21st, 2020.

If you are indigent, you have a right to appointed counsel. If you are not already represented by appointed counsel, you may contact the clerk of court immediately to request counsel. You are further noticed that any counsel appointed previously and still representing you in an abuse, neglect or dependency proceeding will continue to represent you unless otherwise ordered by the court. You have a right to attend all hearings concerning your child.

The date, time and place of any pretrial hearing pursuant to G.S. 7B-1108.1 and the hearing on the Petition to Terminate Parental Rights will be mailed by the moving party upon filing of the response to this notice or forty (40) days from the date of this notice if no response is filed.

Upon your failure to file an Answer to the Petition within the time prescribed, the Movant, the Catawba County Department of Social Services, will apply to the Court for the relief sought in the Petition, **SPECIFICALLY as to the TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS** with respect to the above-described minor child.

Lauren Vaughan, Senior Attorney
Catawba County Department of Social Services
Post Office Box 669, Newton, North Carolina 28658
(828)695-4559

Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, December Term, 2019, No. 000725.

Notice is hereby given that on December 4, 2019, the petition of Jesmin Gloriette Alegado Gonzales was filed, praying for a decree to change her name to Jesmin Gloriette Gonzales.

The Court has fixed court date January 9, 2020 at 12 o'clock P.M., in Room No. 691, City Hall, Philadelphia, PA for hearing.

All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted

Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, October Term, 2019, No. 003682.

Notice is hereby given that on November 12, 2019, the petition of Emily Fitzsimons was filed, praying for a decree to change their name to Dylan Fitzsimons.

The Court has fixed court date December 20, 2019 at 10:00 AM, in Room No. 691, City Hall, Philadelphia, PA for hearing.

All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

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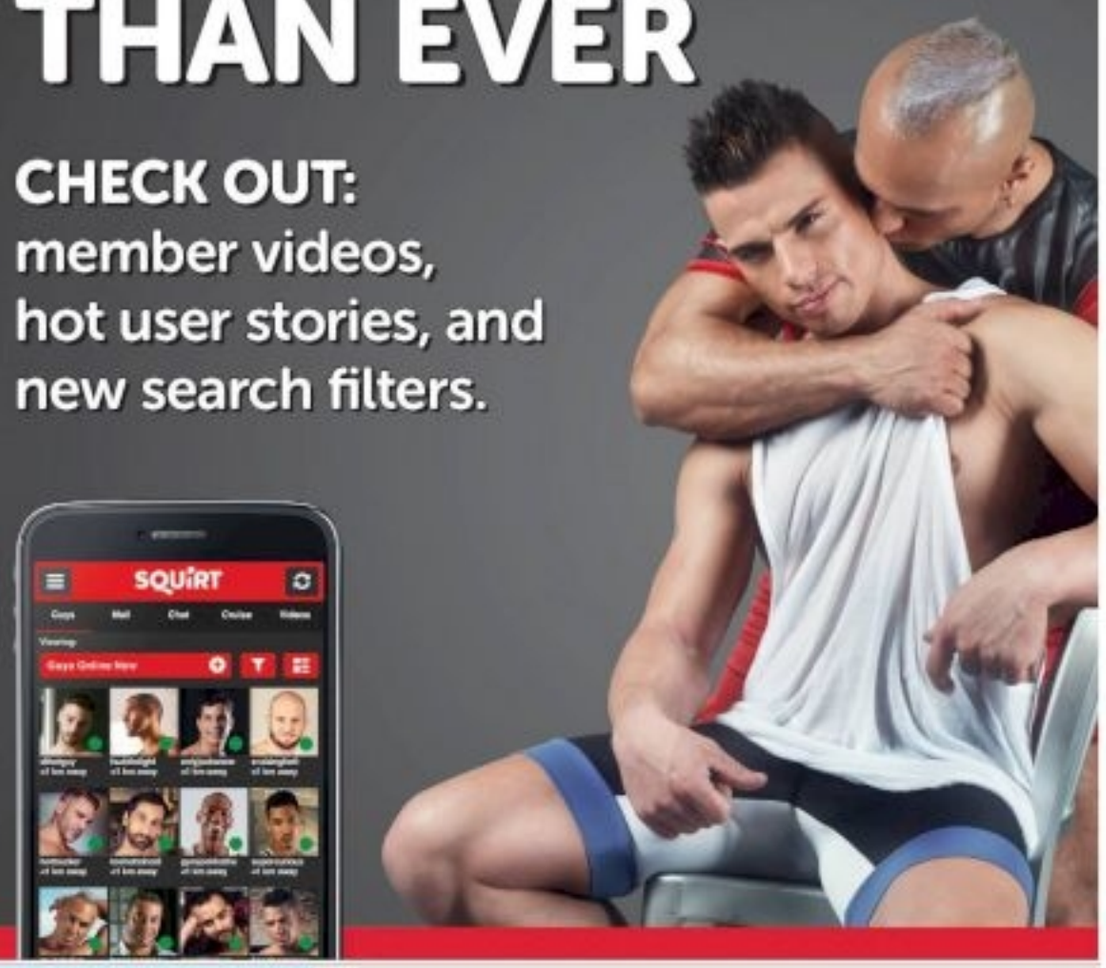

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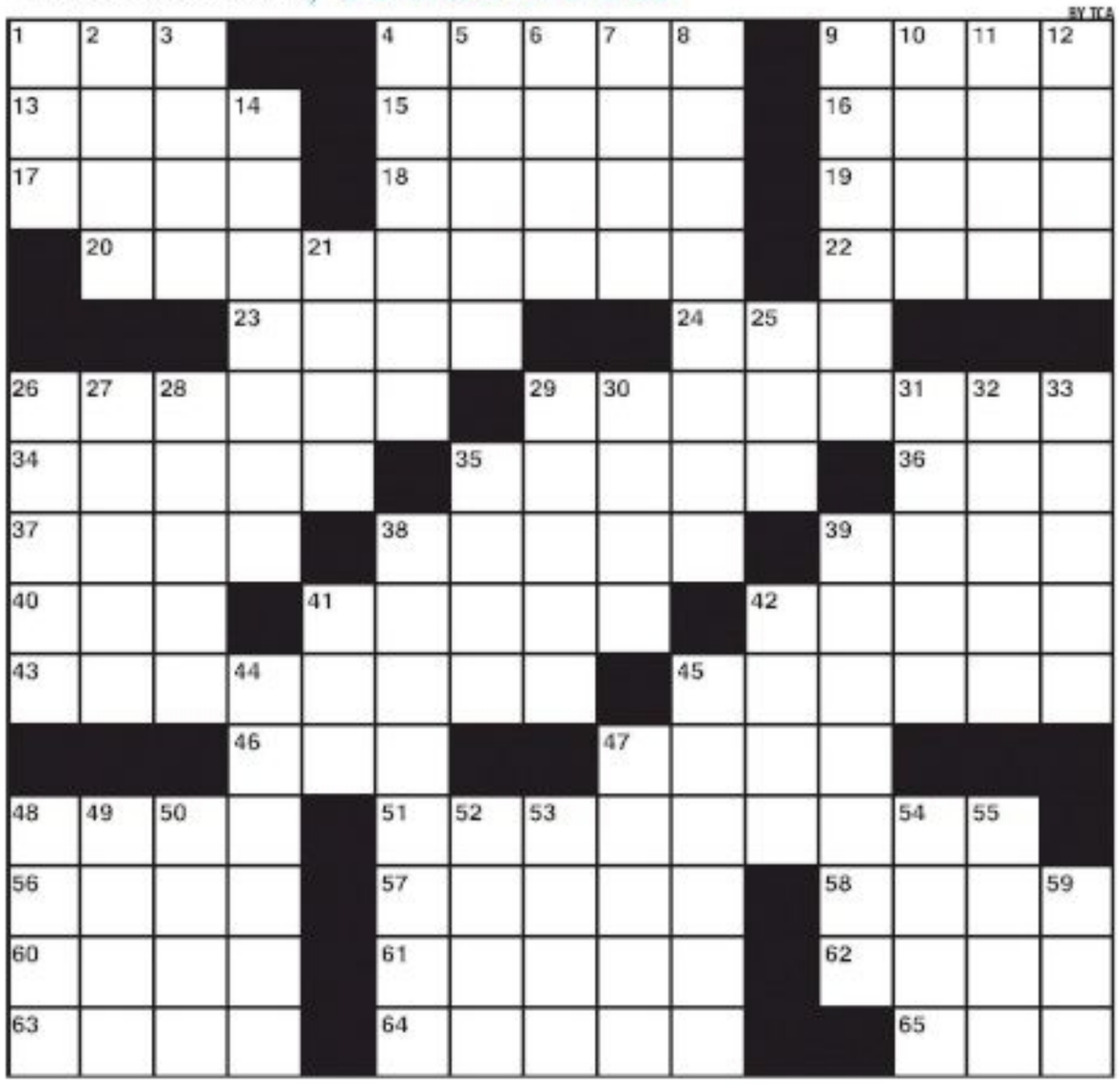

Check your answers at metro.us/games

ACROSS
1 Repetitive twitch
4 Mischief-maker
9 Large trees
13 "__ well that ends well!"
15 Romantic one
16 Dad to Ham, Shem & Japheth
17 Shine
18 Give one's views
19 Country in Africa
20 __ to the plate; came forward & acted
22 Fail to include
23 Breathed one's last
24 Word attached to rest or band
26 __ up; divides
29 Rode __; went saddleless
34 Elegance
35 Looked toward
36 Light source
37 Old Testament book
38 Trial runs
39 Grow weary
40 Polished off
41 Desires
42 Tureen implement
43 Intelligent aquatic mammal
45 Walks leisurely
46 Reply to a texter's joke
47 Horn's sound
48 Jungle cat
51 Walking about pompously
56 Willing to reconsider
57 Grand or spinet
58 Cheese from the Netherlands
60 Sophia Loren's birthplace
61 Prefix for act or net
62 Fly off the handle
63 Shoelace problem
64 Requirements
65 "Sunflower State": abbr.

DOWN
1 __ along with; follow
2 Woes
3 Blood __; thrombus
4 Inclines
5 Managed to handle one's problems
6 Passionate
7 Restaurant list
8 Readies
9 Bury
10 Fruit of the __ undies
11 Trio of kings
12 Injured with a gun
14 Like Ingrid Bergman & Björn Borg
21 Prune stones
25 Maroon or burgundy
26 Leftover bit
27 Mickey Mouse's dog
28 In a bit
29 Keep a roasting turkey moist
30 Play divisions
31 Take __; speak to privately
32 One of the Three Stooges
33 Leg joints
35 Marshes
38 Downward spiral
39 More delicious
41 Wine and dine
42 Pillage; plunder
44 Mercury or Mars
45 Part of GM
47 __ out; paid no attention to
48 __ chops; entrée choice
49 Check __; show concern for
50 Office note
52 Fork prong
53 At any __; nevertheless
54 Where to find Bismarck: abbr.
55 Popular singer Lady __
59 Gents

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metro.us/wordsearch

Q	U	Q	R	A	T	P	A	C	K
G	C	A	E	S	A	R	S	S	N
U	N	E	W	Y	O	R	K	A	A
Y	J	S	Z	M	W	W	I	G	R
S	E	Y	E	E	U	L	B	E	F
L	R	E	H	T	A	E	W	V	C
L	S	F	J	T	O	N	Y	N	Y
O	E	S	I	N	A	T	R	A	S
D	Y	M	R	O	T	S	B	R	A
Z	D	R	G	X	R	Z	P	J	H

Blue Eyes
Caesars
Dolls
Frank
Guys
Italian
Jersey
New York
Rat Pack
Rome
Sinatra
Stormy
Tony
Vegas
Weather

Yesterday's Answers

	T	A	C		A	D	O	R	E		A	L	P	S
C	O	P	D		P	E	D	A	L		B	O	O	T
H	O	P	E		O	L	D	S	M	O	B	I	L	E
I	L	L		C	L	A	S	H		R	E	N	E	W
		I	T	A	L	Y			G	A	S			
P	A	C	I	N	O			W	I	L	S	O	N	
A	D	A	M	S		C	L	E	F	S		V	O	W
P	U	B	S		F	L	E	E	T		B	E	T	A
A	L	L		P	L	A	I	D		B	A	R	E	D
	T	E	D	I	U	M			F	I	E	L	D	S
			W	A	X			M	A	T	Z	O		
E	B	S	E	N		S	P	I	K	E		O	F	F
C	E	L	L	O	P	H	A	N	E		S	K	I	T
H	A	I	L		R	I	G	O	R		H	E	R	D
O	U	T	S		E	V	E	R	Y		E	D	S	

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